

Supreme Court

In re Amendment to Article IV, Rule 1 of the :
Supreme Court Rules :
(Periodic Registration of Attorneys). :

ORDER

Article IV, Rule 1 of the Supreme Court Rules, entitled "Periodic registration of attorneys," is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Rule 1. Periodic registration of attorneys.

(a) Every person who has been admitted to the bar of Rhode Island and who ~~engages in the practice of law within~~ maintains active status in this State shall on or before July first of every year, or within three (3) months of his or her becoming subject to these rules by admission, ~~upon payment of pay~~ a registration fee of ~~one hundred and seventy five dollars (\$175.00), (payable in full upon registration, or at registrant's option, in two (2) equal semi-annual installments)~~ two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and file a completed annual attorney registration statement with the Clerk of this court, on a form to be provided prescribed by the Clerk, a written statement containing his or her full name and address within the State at which service of papers may be made upon him or her, the date of his or her admission to this court, and such other information as this court may from time to time direct. Effective July 1, 2005, the registration fee for attorneys will be two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

(b) ~~This form~~ The annual attorney registration statement will contain a provision whereby the attorneys must certify that they have read and are complying with Article V, Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct-(Safekeeping property) and ~~This form will also contain a provision whereby the attorneys state whether they are currently covered by~~ professional liability insurance. It shall be the responsibility of each attorney to notify the Clerk of any change in the information previously submitted on the annual attorney registration statement within thirty (30) days of such change.

(c) Any attorney may advise the Court in writing that he or she desires to assume inactive status and to discontinue the practice of law in this State.

Upon the filing of such notice, the attorney shall pay an annual registration fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00). The attorney will no longer be eligible to practice law in this State but shall continue to file annual registration statements for as long as he or she remains inactive.

Upon the filing of the notice that he or she wishes to assume inactive status, an attorney shall be removed from the rolls of those classified as active until and unless he or she requests reinstatement to the active rolls and pays for the year of reinstatement the fee imposed for active attorneys.

(d) The name of any person who has not on or before July first filed the current annual registration statement and paid the annual attorney registration fee shall be assessed a one hundred and twenty five dollar (\$125.00) late fee and shall be removed from the Master Roll of Attorneys ~~thirty (30) days after the due date for such statement~~. Any person whose name is not on the Master Roll and who practices law or who holds himself or herself out in any manner to the public or to another person as being competent, qualified, authorized or entitled to practice law in this State is engaged in the unauthorized practice of law and may be subject to the disciplinary procedures of this Court.

(e) An attorney whose name has been removed from the Master Roll ~~solely for failure to file the registration statement for failure to comply with this rule~~ may be reinstated upon filing the registration statement ~~together with a late fee of one hundred twenty five dollars (\$125.00)~~ in addition to payment of the appropriate annual registration fees, including the late fee, plus reimbursement of the costs of collection, except as hereinafter ~~additionally provided in the case, of attorneys practicing law outside this state.~~

Any attorney whose name has been removed from the Master Roll for failure to ~~file the registration statement~~ comply with this rule, and/or who has been suspended from the practice of law for non-payment of Bar Association dues, or who has been on inactive status, for a period in excess of six (6) months, shall file an application with this Court seeking reinstatement and provide a copy to this Court's Disciplinary Counsel. The applicant for reinstatement shall submit an affidavit attesting that the applicant has not been disciplined in this or any other jurisdiction, that the applicant is not the subject of any pending disciplinary charges, and that the applicant is not aware of any reason why the application should not be granted.

Disciplinary Counsel shall provide this Court with a Report and Recommendation on the application within thirty (30) days.

